

DETAILED ACTION

Reissue Applications

The amendment filed January 27, 2003 proposes amendments to the claims that do not comply with 37 CFR 1.173(b), which sets forth the manner of making amendments in reissue applications. A supplemental paper correctly amending the reissue application is required.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this letter is set to expire ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this letter.

The amendment is improper since all amendments to the claims in a reissue application must show changes from the original patent claims. Patentee has shown changes from a previous amendment.

It should be noted that the specification and claims appear to contain new matter. For example: there appears to be no support for the change from "metallic" to "permanent" (original claim 4 does not provide support); changing "etc" to "and the like" in the paragraph beginning at column 1, line 62; changing "rid" to "reduce" in the paragraph beginning at column 2, line 26; inserting "generally designated 9" in the paragraph beginning at column 3, line 34; and the recitation of "elevated" pressure as opposed to the original "3 to 15 bars".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Reginald L. Alexander whose telephone number is 703-308-1594. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on 703-308-3959. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7718 for regular communications and 703-305-3599 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

rla
July 29, 2003

Reginald L. Alexander
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Art Unit 1761
Reginald L. Alexander